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# The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian

No. 397. NOVEMBER, 1939.

"DIVIDING THE INHERITANCE."

*By courtesy of Mr. Joseph Bibby.*] *Luke xii. 13.*

**THE MASTER. THE CHURCH. LIBERAL CHRISTIANITY.**

"One Lord, One Faith, One God and Father of all."—EPH. IV. 5, 6.

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## NOTES AND NEWS.

"Alas, alas, that great city—for in one hour so great riches is come to nought. And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off and cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, What city is like unto this great city!"—Rev xviii. 16-18. A description of what no doubt was familiar to many at a time when the world was never long free from war. Cataclysms are also described, tracts of land suddenly becoming submerged. The world has seen many such in the course of its history and occasionally on a vast continental scale.

* * *

Can we, whatever the call of ordered duty may be, so retain peace and good will in our hearts that we may impersonally will "peace and good-will" as a layer of thought-power over each country in Europe, thereby making possible the more rapid return of peace If there is a spiritual side to the world's existence, surely the apostle's statement "that we war not with flesh and blood but with principalities and powers of darkness," is not without a logical basis, and we are called upon to give our aid to the forces of light and truth, by directing our thought-power in that direction. In the great war which broke the power of the military caste in India, when it had ceased to be a wall of steel around the land to defend it against its enemies, and had been turned into an instrument of intolerable oppression against those whom it protected, in the great battle of Kurushetra, described in the Bhagavad-Gita, Shri-Krishna the charioteer enjoins the Prince Arjuna to fight not with hatred but as the outward means of slaying those who by the Divine Purpose were already slain, without attachment to the result, leaving that with God, doing duty as duty, and the Bhagavad-Gita, which means the book of eighteen chapters, which is regarded as the gem of Indian scriptures, teaches how the peace that passeth understanding may be retained in the midst of that most intense of all human activities, that of war. "Flee unto Me with all thy being, I will release thee from all thy sins," echoed centuries later in the well-known words: "Come unto Me all ye that labour and are heavy laden and ye shall find rest unto your souls." Among Emerson's most precious possessions, at a time when in the West translations were exceedingly scarce, was that of the Bhavagad-Gita—Scripture of Yoga (union with God), which Emerson said contained all things in heaven and on earth.

* * *

The inner meaning of Nazism has been disclosed by an ex-President of Danzig, who himself was a Nazi, and that is not the arrival at any settled, orderly type of life, but the dulling of all thought and initiative of the masses by incessant marching, so that there shall in all things be unquestioning obedience, and keeping the nations of the world in an incessant nervous tension, following continuously a policy of unrest and insatiable demand which no amount of concessions will ever satisfy. This is the considered opinion of one who himself was a Nazi.

* * *

The dark days of November and the Silence at 11 a.m. of the 11th day of the 11th month will have more significance than ever. But it is at a time such as this that religion should come to us, with its strength and quietness and confidence "in the power of an endless life." * * *

December, 1939, number published on Saturday, November 25th. Copy sent in before November 18th, will be received by Rev. John Barron, Ballywalter, Co. Down.

* * *

The N.S.P. Church, as such, is not resonsible for any opinion or declaration in this magazine, by whomsoever expressed, unless contained in an official document.

## SUBSIDY FUND.

Contributions should be addressed to Rev. A. Davison, Dromore, by whom they will be gratefully acknowledged.

## REPORTS.

**Ballyhemlin.**—The Harvest Thanksgiving was held on Sunday afternoon, October 1st. The day was beautful, and the Meeting-house was filled, forms having to be brought in. It was observed that there was a great number of young men and women present. Notwithstanding that a Church of Ireland service was being held at the same time in the locality, the congregation was not much below the usual number. The collection amounted to a little over £9. The Belgravia Quartette rendered selections, in their usual attractive way. Miss McMaster of Ballyhalbert, was the organist, and friends from other local choirs gave their assistance. The Rev. J. Barron preached from Rev. xiv, 14 and 15:—"An angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap, for the time is come for thee to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe."

**All Souls', Belfast.**—A meeting of the new Youth Movement was held in the Crypt on Wednesday, September 22nd. It was well attended. Branches were formed in each of the city churches. Miss Ella McCartney was nominated as representative on the central committee. Hearty vote of thanks was passed to minister, committee and church members for refreshments and use of Crypt. Next meeting dated October 18th at York Street. Annual Sale of Work, November 18th. The Crypt has been offered to A.R.P. as an Air Raid Shelter. No income, under present conditions, is derived from Rosemary Hall.

N.B.—With reference to the effort being made on Wednesday, November 18th, by means of the Annual Sale of Work, we would refer to the appeal in the Calendar for 1939. All Souls had every need and right to make as urgent an appeal as any other church, considering the strenuous conditions in which minister and congregation have been placed for some years past. Sources of revenue previously available have been cut off. All Souls is one of the most beautiful churches in Ireland, and in its own particular way, does supply a need, which is not otherwise met. We hope friends, far and near will give generous and timely assistance.—[Ed.]

**Ministers' Conference.** — The 334th Conference was held at Templepatrick, on Monday, October 2nd. The day was very beautiful and the centre a very attractive one. A matter of local history occupied the attention of the Conference, and that was the burial place of William Orr, who was so prominent in the Great Rebellion, and was hanged at Carrickfergus, his body being brought to Templepatrick for burial. George Bermingham's book: "The Northern Iron" was mentioned as giving the best description of the times and events, the battle in Antrim, the making of Ballintoy, with its wonderful coast scenery, the focus point. George Birmingham himself was rector there, for some years. Rathlin Island, Carrick-a-Rede, on to the Giant's Causeway, are all brought into the story. Mr. and Mrs. Peaston were host and hostess, and the repast was such, that now that "rationing" is with us may not be possible again "during the duration." There was a very informative discussion on matters pertaining to church work in general. The next meeting was announced to take place at Rosemary Hall, Belfast, on Monday, November 6th.

**Downpatrick.** — Harvest Thanksgiving took place on Sunday, October 1st. Preacher was the Rt. Rev. J. Glynne Davies, Moderator, taking for his text: "He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountiful shall reap also bountifully."—II Cor. ix, 6. Christian nations have sown too sparingly the seeds of love and peace. God needs our hearts and minds and hands to bring to fruition the principles of the Christian Gospel: peace and brotherhood the wide world over. That is the divine harvest for which all Christians should strive and pray. The old Meeting-house was adorned with foliage, fruits, flowers and vegetables. The augmented choir was under the leadership of Miss Marie Henry, L.L.C.M. Miss Gertrude Somers, of Belfast, was the soloist.

**Warrenpoint.**—Harvest Thanksgiving was held October 1st; preacher: Rev. J. Dare Davies, Moneyrea; text: "For all do fade away." A solo was pleas-

ingly rendered by Mr. Robert Jones, and Mr. Harry Heather, L.L.C.M., ably presided at the organ. Collectors were Messrs. James Thompson, Fred Kerr, senr., and Thomas J. Brown. The Meeting House, which is one of the most perfect specimens of its type, was decorated in good taste.

**Ulster District Women's League.** — Mrs. James Andrews addressed the members at the quarterly meeting held on September 28th, in the Central Hall, Belfast, her subject being "The Hospitals Supply Depot." Patterns, bandages and finished garments which had been made at the "Law Court Depot" were displayed. Mrs. Winter, of the Soldiers,' Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association, also spoke of the work done and help required by that association, which works both in peace and war time. Mrs. Gardiner, B.A., President of the district, was in the chair and the accompanist was Mrs. T. J. Moore, of Ballyclare. Members of the First Church branch served tea to about fifty members from Antrim and Down branches. Most branch members are working for Hospital Supply depots in their own districts as well as taking part in A.R.P. work. It was decided that branches should raise funds as suited them best to contribute to the Ulster District Fund to help the India and Hostel Funds. Some branches intend to work to supply comforts for the fighting services. Vests for World Service League are to be continued.

**York Street.** — Dr. Agnew has been told that he cannot continue at the pace which has been necessary during the past years. He is making a brave attempt to put the Church in a position where it can be carried on by someone who might not be able to attract and hold the large numbers that he has now and while he is still able to help his people to do it. Perhaps the best inducement that can be given to our people to help will be that that help may not only secure a new Minister someday in York Street but be the means of enabling the present one to remain there to enjoy the fruit of his own building and do better work than ever, freed from some of the strain of recent years.

**Comber.**—Harvest thanksgiving services were held on Sunday, 15th October. The preachers were: the Revs. A. M. Bell, B.A., and J. Glynne Davies. Large congregations assembled at both services. The Church was beautifully decorated by the ladies of the congregation. We are greatly indebted to members for their generous gifts of flowers, vegetables and fruit. The choir rendered two anthems with true feeling and understanding. They were trained and conducted by Mr. W. Munn. Mrs. Smiley presided at the organ with her usual efficiency—her manipulation of the organ was much appreciated. We are grateful also to Mrs. Murphy for the two solos she rendered—these were much enjoyed by all present. The collections were in aid of Church funds.

With deep regret we have to announce that one of the young men of the Church, Leading Aircraftsmen Ritson Finlay Petts, who was serving abroad with the Royal Air Force, has been reported missing since 27th September. Until he joined the Air Force about four years ago, our young friend was one of our staunchest members. He was brought up in our Sunday School, where he had a record of fourteen years unbroken attendance. He was a member of the choir—of the Young People's Guild and of the Unity Players. Ritson possessed a happy and light disposition — he radiated friendship and good nature, and was held in the highest esteem by all who knew him.

We tender to his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. John Petts, Castle Buildings, and to all his relatives, our sincere sympathy in their sorrow and anxiety. We hope and pray with them that both he and his companions in the 'plane may yet be found alive and well.

**Mountpottinger Branch Women's League.** — The opening meeting of the Winter Session was held on Tuesday afternoon, 26th September. The President, Mrs. Munford, conducted the service, after which the annual meeting was held, and various matters discussed.

**Moneyrea.** — The Harvest Thanksgiving services were held on Sunday, October 1st at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. The

Meeting-house was beautifully decorated with flowers, fruit, grain and vegetables by the ladies and gentlemen of the congregation, whose work was deservedly praised for the whole setting was very effective.

The services, morning and evening, were conducted by the Rev. John McCleery, B.A., S.T.M., of Newry, whose eloquent sermons were highly appreciated. The special singer was Mrs. Hamill, of Belfast, whose appropriate solos charmed her hearers and added to the beauty and impressiveness of the services.

During the evening service the new electric light installation was dedicated, and the light was turned on by Miss Stewart of Mount Hobart, who like her brother, the late Mr. Kennedy Stewart, is a staunch supporter and life-long member of Moneyrea congregation.

The collections, which amounted to over £57 were in aid of the Fund to defray the cost of the installation.

The committee and congregation wish to express their sincere thanks to the Rev. J. McCleery, Miss Stewart and Mrs. Hamill, and also to the special collectors for their kind support and generosity.

The services were very well attended by our own members and friends from other churches, and the singing of the well-known harvest hymns was inspiring. Mrs. McCartney presided at the organ.

**Clough.** — Harvest Thanksgiving, October 15th at 11-30 a.m. and 3 p.m. Preacher: Rev. J. Shaw Brown. A presentation was made to the Rev. J. Shaw Brown from his congregation.

**Clough.**—Farewell Presentation.—A meeting of the N.S. Presbyterian Church was held at the close of worship on Sunday, 8th October, to bid farewell to the minister, Rev. J. Shaw Brown and to Mrs. and Miss Shaw Brown on the occasion of the minister's retirement from active service. On the motion of the church secretary, Mr. Hugh Shaw, Mr. J. Minnis, Ulster Bank, Castlewellan, was asked to preside. In a short speech the chairman explained the purpose of the meeting, and then called upon Miss Davidson, Bryansford, to perform a very pleasing duty, and to bear testimony to the splendid way Mr. Shaw Brown had served the church and maintained the principles for which the church had stood for over a hundred years. They could not permit him and his wife and sister to leave without giving them some tangible token of their esteem and regard. She then in the name of the congregation presented to the Rev. J. Shaw Brown a Westminster clock of chaste design and a wallet of treasury notes, and to Mrs. Shaw Brown a beautiful handbag which also contained a goodly number of treasury notes, and to Miss Shaw Brown a beautiful and useful umbrella. The minister was much moved by this spontaneous and unexpected token of regard and feelingly replied, and afterwards Mrs. and Miss Shaw Brown in short speeches thanked Miss Davidson and the congregation for their very kind remembrance and gifts, and expressed the hope that as they would still be living in County Down they would often have the pleasure of welcoming them all to their new home in Bangor.

**Ballycarry.**—On October 15, harvest services were held in the old Presbyterian Church, Ballycarry, the morning preacher being the Rev. John Begg of Larne, whose address was very much appreciated by the large congregation assembled. The evening preacher at 4 o'clock was the Rev. John Hinkins of Crumlin, M.A., M.R.S.T., who delivered an extempore address entirely without notes to a congregation that filled the building. The church was very beautifully arranged with the trophies of the harvest, corn and vegetable and fruit products were in abundance including a lovely display of many coloured flowers, all being the kindly gifts of members and friends of the congregation. Thanks are due to Mrs. John McKee and family, Mrs. Robt. Millar, Mrs. R. Snoddy and many other willing helpers, for the work of assorting and arranging these samples of good gifts in suitable and pleasing array.

The augmented choir (which contained a number of good local vocalists), especially distinguished itself by the splendid singing of the suitable hymns and anthems chosen for the occasion.. It is the organist, Mr. W.

P. Campbell of Whitehead, who is indefatigable in the training of the choir that this church is indebted for its remarkable improvement in the rendering of church vocal music at every service.

On the following day (Monday) all the gifts of the harvest, except the corn, were sent to the General Hospital, Larne.

**Crumlin.**—The harvest service was held at Crumlin on September 25, at 3-30, with the Rev C. J. Montgomery as special preacher. Miss Helen Peaston added to the impressiveness of the service by singing "Thanks be to God" and "The Harvesters Night Song." The scheme of decoration was evidence not only of the plenteous harvest but also of the enthusiasm and artistry of the ladies and gentlemen responsible for it. The sun must not be omitted, for it added a final golden touch. The duties of organist were shared by Miss Manderson and Mrs. Hinkins.

**First Church, Belfast.**—The Harvest and Sunday School Anniversary Services took place on October 8th, the preacher being the minister, the Rev. R. W. Wilde. Good congregations assembled. Owing to the lighting restrictions, the evening service was this year abandoned. At the afternoon service the church choir rendered selections from Hadyn's "The Creation" Mr. Albert Taylor officiated at the organ; while the soloists were Miss Anne Duthie (soprano), Miss L. V. Gordon (contralto), Mr. D. Houston (tenor), and Mr. J. Laird (bass). The church had been very tastefully decorated for the occasion. Large congregations were present also on Oct. 1st, Intercession Sunday, when special prayers were used in reference to the international situation, and the minister spoke at the morning service on "Co-operate—or Perish!" The evening service has now been brought forward to the hour of 3-30 p.m. It is too early yet to say how this change will affect attendances; but up to date the numbers have been less than at the customary evening service. Communion was celebrated on Sunday morning, October 22nd, and it was gratifying to see the large number of members attending.

The Rosemary Discussion Circle, which normally meets at 3 p.m. on alternate Sundays, is now meeting at 6 p.m. For members who desire it a cup of tea is provided in the Central Hall at 5 p.m. Meetings up to date have been as follows:—September 24th, Mr. John Blair, "The Technique of Social Credit"; October 8th, Debate, "That the End always justifies the Means," Messrs. S. Wood and T. Moore speaking for the motion, and Messrs. J. Laird and N. Costellano against; Oct. 22nd, Mr. T. Moore, "Organic Evolution." The church choir spent an enjoyable afternoon and evening on Oct. 21st, at "Gamba," Cranmore Park, by kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Taylor. The Women's League meets fortnightly at 3 p.m. on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. League members and friends are now working at the making of comforts for men of H.M. Forces. A box has been placed in the church vestibule, and it is hoped that those attending church services will, from time to time, place some small gift therein. The fund so contributed will be used for the purchase of materials to be made up into comforts. Ladies who can undertake knitting or similar work to this end are invited to approach the League officers. Their help will be gratefully welcomed. The Junior Women's League is meeting weekly at 3 p.m., on Saturday afternoons. Here also work is being undertaken to provide comforts for men in the Forces. The Junior League organised a very successful whist drive on the afternoon of Saturday, September 30th, in aid of the Red Cross Fund. As a result, a sum of five guineas was sent to the Fund. The Dramatic Society has decided to attempt at least one production during the coming winter, and is now busily rehearsing for "Forced Landing" (Wilfred Massey), which it is hoped to produce during the latter part of January. The Minister's Sunday morning class continues to be well attended. It is now engaged in the study of "The Development of Religious Ideas in Israel"—a course which will extend for some nine or ten weeks. Further members of the class would be welcomed. Mr. and Mrs. T. Moore are shortly to remove

from Belfast. They have been among the most active of our younger church members. The Discussion Circle and the newly-formed Fellowship of Youth, in particular, owe much to Mr. Moore's vision and practical ability. Good wishes go out to them for success and happiness in their new sphere.

## REST ROOM, CENTRAL HALL.

The Directors have consented to place a room at the disposal of visitors to Belfast, as well as those resident in the neighbourhood, who have to wait in town, and desire to make appointments with friends. A room will be available until 6 p.m. As to the exact room please enquire at the Depository.

## OBITUARY.

### Miss Susan Malcolm.

By the death of Miss Susan Malcolm, the Holywood congregation has lost one of its oldest members. For several years she had been unable to attend the services, but to the last she retained a lively interest in the life of the congregation, and acted as collector for the Orphans' Society. She was the last survivor of a family whose connection with the church extended over a very long period. Her father, Wm. H. Malcolm, was treasurer of the congregation for many years.

## YORK ST. NON-SUBSCRIBING PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

### Sunday Afternoon Fellowship—4 o'clock.

PROGRAMME, 1939.

Sunday, 29th October—Councillor E. Butterworth.

Sunday, 5th November—Mr. J. Little.

Sunday, 12th November — Speakers from Peace Pledge Union.

Sunday, 19th November—Mr. S. Brownlee.

Sunday, 26th November—Rabbi J. Shachter, M.A.

## DEATH.

**Barnes.**—October 21, 1939, at his residence, Hallowdene, Greyabbey, David T. Barnes.

## NON-SUBSCRIBING PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF IRELAND.

### YOUNG PEOPLE''S LEAGUE.

A meeting of the newly formed Young People's League was held in the Hall of the York Street Church, Belfast, on Wednesday, 18th October, 1939. Sixty young people from seven of our churches were present to hear an address from the Moderator, the Right Rev. J. Glynne Davies. In his words of welcome to the Moderator Mr. Wm. Christie, the chairman, expressed the feeling of the meeting.

The Moderator in a vigorous and inspiring speech, stressed the importance of Liberal Christian principles in the world to-day. He claimed that it was the lack of those principles that had led the Nations of Europe to a state of war. In conclusion the Moderator expressed the opinion that real peace could not be enjoyed until men and nations were possessed of the spirit of Liberal Chrstianity. The meeting having accepted the League constitution the Moderator was elected first President of the League. A film illustrative of the activities of the American Unitarian Youth Movement, commented upon by Rev. Dr. A. L. Agnew, was shown and greeted with enthusiasm. At the conclusion of the meeting tea was served by the members of the York Street congregation with their usual generosity.

The League has accepted the invitation of the Mountpottinger congregation to hold its next meeting in their church hall. This meeting will take the form of a debate and is fixed for Wednesday, 22nd November, at 8 o'clock, the proposition being: "that the spirit of Non-Subscription is of supreme value in the world to-day." Four members of the League, two ladies and two gentlemen have volunteered to make the opening speeches for and against the motion. It is hoped the important and topical subject chosen will give a gathering, as big as our York Street gathering, good ground for vigorous and interesting debate.

**Summer-time ends Nov. 18-19.**

## CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor, "Non-Subscribing Presbyterian."

Sir,—I have been asked several times why it is that with our present congregation in York Street we have any need to apply to members of other congregations with pressing problems of their own for assistance. As the matter concerns the whole denomination and the Non-Subscriber is the best and only means of communication I hope you will allow me a few lines. Twenty years ago the York Street congregation had some income. The Hall was let for £150 a year and the Manse for £80. There was a guarantee fund of £25 a year which was paid for some years. Notwithstanding no Minister would take the pulpit. There was a vacancy for seven years. A brave effort by the late Rev. F. Woolley assisted by a considerable congregation from Stanhope St. failed in twelve months. Mr. Woolley described the position as absolutely hopeless and members of the congregation went to other churches. Leaders of the denomination proposed that the Church be sold. Bad as the position was then it is worse to-day. The Hall is no longer let. The Manse is let for a nominal sum and may be a liability. The sole income of the Church is a diminished investment bringing in about £60 a year. That does not meet the overhead expenses, electric light and rent. The Church depends absolutely on the congregation. If no Minister would take it twenty years ago it is surely obvious that no Minister can be expected to take it to-day. I do not know of a single Church in the denomination in exactly the same position. The ideal situation of the Church for its purpose, its now bright and cheerful atmosphere and above all the great number of young people growing up in it will always guarantee that there will be a fine congregation, possibly as large as any in this denomination. But however loyal that congregation may be and whatever they may do they cannot maintain the Church. Sooner or later it would have to be sold and it would be wise to sell it at once before it accumulates a debt which would destroy the value of the sale. On the other hand a modest endowment will secure the Church as it now is for all reasonable time. Some practical people have pointed out that even the interest on a considerable sum is not much in these days. I can only say that those who have done so much in York Street know what they are doing. The present congregation not only will not benefit by anything given to them now; they are themselves making a great effort to build up an endowment and in all the struggle of the past sixteen years something has always been set aside for the future. Now that our building is at last complete we shall do more, and we would not be doing it without strong hope of success. It is a matter of turning the scale. We know that given time and a little assistance we can build up what will secure that the Church will always be able to carry on. If we could be sure of time we might not need the assistance. What it may do for us now is to enable us to do ourselves what we could not otherwise do by easing the strain a little so that we can be the more sure to continue. At any rate nothing given to York Street can be lost. Should the Church have to close every penny of its funds and the proceeds of what is now a building that other denominations would only be too anxious to acquire will go direct to the Presbytery of Antrim or the Sustentation Fund.

Nothing however is more hurtful to us than the question what has our own congregation done or why it is that with a fairly large congregation we need to appeal to others. People know that the Church has practically no income. They can see that hundreds of pounds must have been spent in it and that it goes on from year to year. All but about thirty people in our denomination know that they have never been asked for a single subscription toward the work and yet we are solemly asked whether we do anything ourselves. The plain facts are these. The congregation consisted sixteen years ago of a dozen people. To-day it consists of under three hundred members, an average of one hundred and fifty people, smaller than some of our provincial Churches. None of those people are wealthy. At one time more than half were unemployed. Those people and those people alone have for the

past ten years been raising over £600 every year to clear the Church of debt in the first case, rebuild it in the second case and maintain it in the third. £400 of debt have been removed. Over £2,000 has been spent on the property and the Church has been kept and is being kept. Last year the collections and stipend alone amounted to £500. We believe that no Non-Subscribing congregation even the wealthiest could have done so much, in fact we have been told that no Protestant congregation in Belfast has ever done what we have done in proportion to our numbers and our lack of space.

After the last war every denomination except our own began Church extension work. Presbyterians are raising £100,000 for such work in Belfast alone. We considered that it would be hopeless to try. One experiment in Bangor failed. Yet a little handful of people and most of them new comers, have added a new Church and a new congregation to our denomination. It is not an ordinary Church either. It has become a denominational centre. Scores of young people have been saved for our denomination. Lay preachers have been provided for our pulpits. Students have been inspired. The denomination has been made known to hundreds who had never heard of it. What the existence of York Street has meant or may mean to our movement is for others to say. The Church and Hall themselves are now such as any denomination would be proud to have. There is not a denomination which would not gladly subscribe hundreds of pounds even on the chance of such work being done in it. There is certainly not one which would allow it to be lost when a trifle would save it. If this splendid building and this fine and growing congregation is lost the loss itself will not only be great but the effect will be greater. Ours is the first denomination which should be delighted to see such progress. It is the very last which can afford to see it cease and if we cannot even keep a Church which is given to us when so little would keep it we must admit that the common saying which we have fought to disprove more in York Street than anywhere else is true, and that we are dead indeed.

If we are asking for any sacrifice anywhere or required anything impossible matters would be different. There are large numbers of our people who have always been longing to see some headway made amongst us. They should not be less willing to help it because it was made first and they were only asked to secure it after. If they belonged to other denominations they would be giving time and again to Church extension work. This is the first time in most of their lives that they have an opportunity to give to such work amongst us and nothing they give need be so much as to interfere with their labours for their own Churches. A few pounds or a few shillings from every Non-Subscriber who wants to see our cause growing will give all that is required.

I myself may say that I dislike appealing so much that in the past ten years I have preferred to return much of my own salary rather than have even a Sale of Work amongst our own people. Most of my people are the same and what some of them have given to their Church would hardly be believed. Now however we appeal because we feel it is almost a duty. We have carried on and might for some years to come. But if all the work that has been done and our Church itself is to be saved we must do it now when it can succeed and we hope that our friends will show their appreciation of the wisdom of acting before it is too late. Many Churches have been lost after much money has been spent to save them when a little help in time would have enabled them to save themselves. We are acting in time.

We thank those generous friends who have subscribed already. One congregation alone has given £40. We appeal to all and no sum is too small to give.

A. L. AGNEW.

## THOSE SERVING WITH THE FORCES

Dear Editor,—As Fellowship Secretary of the Ulster District League I shall be glad of names of men belonging to the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland who are serving with the Forces.

The League hopes to send Christmas parcels to the men. For this purpose

we should be glad of subscriptions either in kind—scarves, socks, cigarettes, mittens, helmets, sweets, handkerchiefs, or in money.

The Treasurer, Miss Laird, 16 Glandore Avenue, would acknowledge gifts of money.

Gifts of articles mentioned may be left or sent to 35 Rosemary Street, marked "For Christmas Parcels." Surplus articles will be sent to the Ulster Gift Fund. A ready response to this appeal would be appreciated.

In the event of men in the forces coming from across the water to Ulster I should be glad of names of those who would be willing to entertain them in their off duty time—either for a meal or a week-end.

EDITH D. DAVIES,
Hon Fellowship Sec.

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S LEAGUE.

Dear Sir,—Further to our circular letter early in September ,1939, I have pleasure in informing you that a Young People's League has been formed in our denomination.

According to the Constitution of the League it is to be governed by a Council composed of two representatives from each congregation. One representative will be a lady and the other a gentleman and between the ages of 16 to 35 years inclusive. Representatives to act on the Council for the first year are to be elected before the 6th November, 1939.

As well as attending Council meetings the representatives will be responsible for the collection of subscriptions (which have been tentatively fixed at 1/- under 20 years of age and 2/6 above 20 years) from members of the League in their congregation and the keeping of members informed of meeting and other activities.

There is also provision in the Constitution for the formation of Regional Committees, if and when such arrangement is desirable, to arrange joint activities amongst neighbouring congregations.

It is appreciated that in existing conditions members of some congregations may find it not convenient to attend meetings and will hesitate in the joining of the League. Provision has accordingly been made to enable those congregations to appoint their representatives at any later date.

It is desired, however, that as many as can take part will do so, as our aim is to make the movement a real active force for the good of our denomination.

If your young people wish to participate will you please arrange for them to elect their two representatives. The first Council meeting will be held in the Central Hall, Rosemary Street, on Monday, 13th November, 1939, at 8 p.m., and if any representatives cannot attend that meeting I should, in any case, like to have their names and addresses for the compilation of a complete list of Council members for communication with them direct in future.

On behalf of the young people please accept our thanks for the assistance which you have already given and which I am sure you will continue in the future to ensure the success of our new movement.

Yours sincerely,
WM. CHRISTIE.

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